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QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

BIOREDD+ PROGRAM
FOURTH QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2012
JULY-SEPTEMBER 2012



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Cover Photograph

Promoting sustainable management of mangroves and *piangua*, P. Herron, Jul. 2012

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The USAID Biodiversity—Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (BIOREDD+) Program is a \$27.8 million program financed by USAID, which supports Colombian efforts to strengthen environmental governance, mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts, conserve biodiversity, and promote economic development. This report presents activities conducted during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2012 (July-Sept 2012).

Without doubt the quarter marked a watershed for BIOREDD+ with both the cessation of activities in the Caribbean and the reorganization of Program management both in the Chemonics Home Office and in Colombia. This was accompanied by significant staff changes at other levels as well. On the one hand, this provided an important opportunity within the project to reflect on performance - which has been far below expectations over the first year – and reorganize. On the other it slowed down pipeline development and expenditure while the Program worked “to put its house in order”. This will improve massively in 2013. A programmatic review undertaken with USAID in August was an important part of this rethink.

In large part, this document reflects the “BIOREDD+ personality” over previous quarters; a massive array of interesting and relevant activity across all components, with little concrete contribution to numeric targets associated with formal indicators. The exception to this being the work on national policy that has now surpassed the life of Program (LOP) goal. Part of this reflects the significant input into socializing, negotiating, coordinating and developing coherent projects (this has been particularly challenging in Buenaventura). Part reflects the structural weaknesses in the Program that put a brake on translating all this effort into tangible instruments to be financed by the EAF. This is the big challenge for Year 2.

During the quarter, BIOREDD+ strengthened environmental governance by providing assistance for the drafting, adoption and/or implementation of more than seven laws, policies, and plans that address climate change and/or biodiversity. BIOREDD+ also supported the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MESD) in conducting reviews and outreach for the participatory construction of the national strategy for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (ENREDD+).

In climate change mitigation, BIOREDD+ continued to work with indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities to help them better understand the opportunities that REDD+ presents for livelihood improvements and forest conservation and what kinds of activities and pre-requisites are needed. The Program worked with subcontractors to initiate the socio-economic assessments and contracted a firm to develop the methodology for estimating carbon baselines, developing MRV systems, and carrying out the biomass and carbon estimates.

To improve biodiversity conservation in protected areas and buffer zones, BIOREDD+ worked on the development of grant applications and awarded grants to Cajambre and Bajo Mira to support biodiversity conservation in 29,000 hectares of natural forests. Mano Cambiada continued to work on promoting the Utria National Park as an important tourist destination, although not without difficulties. Through an MOU signed by USAID and the Department for Social Prosperity (DPS), BIOREDD+ has grant agreements that will leverage funds for sustainable and productive activities estimated at roughly \$800,000 USD that will benefit more than 400 families in their activities to conserve and recover mangrove ecosystems.

ACRONYMS

APS	Annual Program Statement
AUNAP	National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority
CARs	Autonomous Regional Corporations
CCEP	Colombia Clean Energy Program
DMI	Integrated Management District
EAF	Environmental Activity Fund
GCC	Global Climate Change
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GIS	Geographic Information System
GOC	Government of Colombia
IDEAM	Colombian Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies Institute
LIDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIDAS	USAID/Colombia Additional Investment for Sustainable Alternative Development
MME	Ministry of Mines and Energy
MESD	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRV	Measurement, Reporting, and Verification
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
NFTP	Non Timber Forest Products
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resources Management
PDD	Project Development Document
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
PNN	Colombian National Natural Park
PO	Purchase Order
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
RFP	Request for Proposal
SAR	Synthetic-Aperture Radar
SIRAPs	Regional Protected Area Systems
STTA	Short-term technical assistance
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UAC-ChN	The Coastal Environmental Unit of Northern Pacific Chocó
UAESPNN	Special Administrative Unit of the National Parks System
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS TOWARDS KEY RESULTS

BIOREDD+ is designed to directly contribute to USAID's Development Objective 4 (DO-4): Colombian efforts to sustainably manage the country's environmental resources reinforced. BIODREDD+ activity design and implementation is guided by the established expected results. Table I summarizes how achievements from activities undertaken during the quarter contribute to the Mission's three key indicators to achieving DO-4. Indicators at the intermediate result level, which contribute to these results, are presented throughout this report.

Table I: Key Program Results Achieved through Q4FY12				
Indicator No.	Indicator	Adjusted LOP Goals	Year One Goals	Achievements thru Q4 FY12
DO4-001	Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance.	700,000	30,000	BIOREDD+ has signed agreements with more than 50 communities covering 1,524,534 hectares. Four activities in implementation under grants contribute to potential improved management on nearly 270,000 hectares.
DO4-002	Number of institutions /organizations public and private with improved capacity for effective environmental resource management.	30	10	BIOREDD+ worked to build institutional capacity to effectively manage environmental resources in more than 46 organizations, including 8 government institutions or coordination mechanisms, 7 NGOs, 18 ethnic authorities, 2 micro enterprises and 11 local communities or groups through planning meetings and trainings.
DO4-003	Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance.	15,200	0	BIOREDD+ signed two additional grants during the quarter that seek to improve livelihoods for 1,900 people. With the grants signed and implemented, BIODREDD+ will increase economic benefits for 2,200 people, which represents almost 15% of the LOP goal.

SECTION I

STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

A. STRATEGY OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

Through this intermediate result, BIOREDD+ is strengthening national capacity to more effectively administer policies, laws and regulations for the sustainable management of environmental assets and biodiversity conservation in Colombia. BIOREDD+ is working to promote the economic, equitable and sound design, and effective enforcement of policies, laws and regulations written by the government to be enforced in Colombia's regions, rural municipalities, Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities, and protected areas. The key indicators and targets are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Overall Program and Environmental Governance Key Indicators and Targets				
Indicator Number	Indicator	Adjusted LOP Goals	Year One Goals	Achievements Q4
DO4-004	Number of institutions with improved capacity to address climate change issues as a result of USG assistance.	20	5	BIOREDD+ has contributed to improved institutional capacity to coordinate, analyze, or make decisions related to mitigation during the quarter by assisting the MESD with the REDD-Readiness activities and by defining terms of reference with IDEAM. For the National Strategy on REDD, the program has supported workshops with delegates from Afro-Colombian and indigenous community organizations. BIOREDD+ also began to strengthen linkages between a network of institutions by working with IDEAM, the MESD, and the Humboldt Institute so that information gathered for the forest inventory plots can help validate remote sensing data and establish biodiversity baselines.
DO4-005	Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) and/or biodiversity conservation officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance.	24	6	BIOREDD+ has contributed to 26 laws, policies, strategies and/or plans that address climate change or biodiversity conservation to date. BIOREDD+ supported the national government in addressing environmental governance by supporting the official proposal of 7 of the legal documents prepared during the previous quarter. Additionally, the text for a law on the use of mercury in mining was prepared and 3 decrees related to mining, watersheds, and protected areas were adopted with BIOREDD+ support. Finally, the two decrees for the creation of AUNAP were implemented and the new director was named.
DO4-006	Number of mitigation and/or adaptation tools, technologies and methodologies developed, tested and/or adopted.	9	0	BIOREDD+ identified 6 of the 9 tools, technologies, or methodologies that the program will develop, test, and/or adopt. BIOREDD+ worked with GeoEcoMap Inc. and their lead researcher, Dr. Sassan Saatchi, to begin the subcontract that will develop, test, and or adopt at least 4 of the 9 tools, technologies, or methodologies set as a LOP goal.

To achieve these targets, BIOREDD+ is working at the *national level* to assist government institutions to develop and update key climate change and biodiversity conservation policies and regulations. At the *regional and local levels*, BIOREDD+ is building the capacity of local and regional authorities (e.g., CARs, local governments and Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities) to implement and enforce policy.

B. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE QUARTER

IMPROVING NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES FOR CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY AND ADAPTING TO AND MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE (4.1.1)

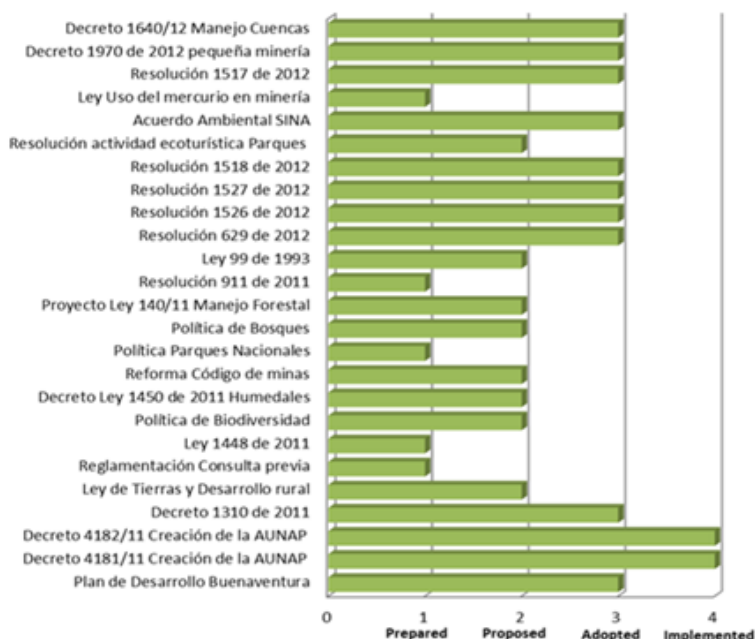
To support the MESD in the development and review of environmental laws and regulations, BIOREDD+ continued to use the services of three senior technical and legal advisors (referred to in the remainder of the document as ‘BIOREDD+’s advisory team’). During the quarter, former MESD Minister Frank Pearl resigned to be replaced by Juan Gabriel Uribe and one of the three consultants on the advisory team resigned.

The advisory team reviewed several laws and regulations during the quarter including: the MESD Forestry Management Decree, the Draft Regulatory Decree for Law 1450 of 2011 that addresses strategic wetland ecosystems and buffer zones, the House draft Law 140/11 related to forest plantations and commercial or industrial agroforestry systems, and a resolution to regulate ecotourism in National Parks, which will positively affect the ecotourism activities developed by BIOREDD+ in northern Chocó. More detail on specific accomplishments during the quarter can be found in Figure 1.

A “Hands-On” Approach to Expediting key legislation

The BIOREDD+ advisory team is supporting the MESD by drafting regulations and reviewing key laws, policies, and plans, at the request of the Minister. After drafting or reviewing, the team consults with the legal office and within departments of the Ministry to expedite the signature and adoption of key legislation. Typically, the process from drafting to implementation takes several months if not longer, which is why the targeted expert support provided by BIOREDD+ has enabled significant progress in expediting key legislation.

Figure 1. Number/Type of National Legal and Policy Instruments Developed During the Quarter



Promoting Management of Forest Reserves. During the quarter, BIOREDD+ provided technical assistance by drafting and reviewing the amendments to Resolution 918 regarding extraction from forest reserves, as declared in the Protected Forest Reserves Law 2 from 1959. Three resolutions were issued after long and intensive discussions on the impacts of mining and possible impacts of the exploratory stages on the natural environment. Furthermore, since the National Government through the Ministry of Mines and Energy declared the Forest Reserve of Amazonia, covering over 17 million hectares, as a Strategic Mining Area, the area must establish different procedures in conducting studies, as well as granting and licensing conditions of mining titles in highly sensitive areas. During the quarter, the MESD, with BIOREDD+ support, issued Resolution 1518 which halts the extraction from Forest Reserves per Law 2 for exploration and mining, until the studies for forest reserves management are updated.

Building on the recommendations during the previous quarter to the Colombian forest policy, BIOREDD+'s advisory team provided additional technical assistance to simplify the 150 page document and clarify the roles of the Ministries with an integrated approach, which recognizes that the policy needs to be tailored according to geographic, socio-economic, and cultural conditions, particularly taking into account the rights of Afro-Colombian and indigenous people. During this quarter, a preliminary consolidated policy document was formally presented to the Deputy Minister of Environment and in a workshop with key players in the sector and leaders of the entities that make up the National Environmental System (SINA). The key potential BIOREDD+ innovation is halting the loss of natural forest through the expansion of the agricultural frontier by empowering rural populations as owners and guarantors of forest management with rights and obligations.

Fostering Compensation for Unavoidable Biodiversity Losses from Mining. In the previous quarter BIOREDD supported the MESD and Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) in developing a methodology for the determination and quantification of environmental compensations from mining as well as reforms to the Mining Code. During this quarter, the BIOREDD+ advisory team continued to revise and incorporate environmental concerns in the Mining Code, and specifically worked to incorporate an article related to the creation of a fund for environmental liabilities generated by mining activities. The implementation of a fund of this type can significantly reduce the environmental impacts of waste left by mining in the country. Additionally, support was provided to the Ministries of Environment and Energy and Mines, in the preparation and adoption of Decree 1970 of 2012 which simplifies the procedures and requirements for legalization and formalization of traditional



mining in the country. The BIOREDD+ advisory team also contributed to the development of Resolution 1517 of 2012 which was adopted by the MESD. This resolution establishes a Manual for the Allocation of Compensations for Biodiversity Losses, using The Nature Conservancy equivalent ecosystem methodology for the calculation of compensations arising from the environmental impacts of projects requiring environmental licenses, particularly mining.

Supporting Reform of the Legal Framework for Improved Regional Environmental Governance.

BIOREDD+'s advisory team in the MESD has been active in preparing the text to reform the legislation (Law 99 of 1993) that governs the CARs. The revisions seek to improve investment decisions and create more effective initiatives to support climate mitigation and adaptation. To promote the revisions, BIORREDD+ has supported the MESD with the prior consultation process with ethnic communities required for the presentation of the law to Congress. The support provided by BIORREDD+ is facilitating the first full consultation process carried out by the MESD. During the quarter, BIORREDD+ collaborated with the Ministry by contracting 10 indigenous advisors, including two delegates from each of the five organizations of indigenous peoples and organizations that hold a permanent seat on the MPC—*Mesa Permanente de Concertación con los Pueblos y Organizaciones Indígenas*. These consultants serve as part of the technical commission tasked with incorporating the collective interest of the indigenous peoples they represent in the proposed text to reform the Law 99/93. Their participation also serves to ensure that the prior consultation process for this law is carried out effectively. In September, the consultants produced a preliminary document to present to the MESD with the revisions and concerns of the communities with the text of a proposed amendment to the Law 99 of 1993.

Also during the quarter, given the concerns and requests by Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities for a more effective participation in policy making and environmental regulations, BIORREDD+ released an request for proposals from organizations to provide assistance to the MESD in the design and implementation of strategy to effectively work with and reach out to indigenous communities in consultations on the reform of the Law of CARs (99 of 1993). During the quarter, proposals were evaluated and a subcontractor was selected to design the process and provide training to ensure compliance in the implementation of the strategy. This activity is expected to require six months of assistance. BIORREDD+ expects the prior consultation process carried out in relation to Law of CARs to serve as a model for the government in their future consultation and engagement processes with the ethnic communities.



Supporting the MESD in Preparing and Implementing the National Strategy for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (ENREDD+).

During the quarter, BIORREDD+ worked with the MESD to promote the development and implementation of Colombia's national REDD+ strategy (ENREDD+). Colombia's REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) seeks to foster the participatory construction of ENREDD+ by involving all stakeholders and interest groups, in order to strengthen their capacity to manage forests at local, regional and national levels. Ultimately, with this assistance, BIORREDD+ facilitated more productive relationships and dialogue between the MESD and communities along the Pacific coast. To this end, in July BIORREDD+ contracted three indigenous consultants to ensure adequate participation of ethnic minorities in the ENREDD+ preparation by reviewing of the text of the REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP).

In September, BIORREDD+ also designed two consultancies to support the MESD in implementing the consultation process for the REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) of the National REDD

+ Strategy. Recruitment for a consultant to develop a critical path document for the National Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and a consultant to develop the content for communication materials for the implementation of the consultation process with strategic actors for the REDD Readiness Preparation

43 Women Delegates from Pacific Community Councils participate in the ENREDD+ workshop. E. Valenzuela, MESD. 2012.

Proposal (R-PP) of the National REDD+ Strategy began. These assignments are required by the MESD in order to access international funds to implement ENREDD+ in Colombia.

In August, BIOREDD+ also provided support for the facilitation of two of four workshops in the Pacific region to enhance the ENREDD+ preparation and SESA through a subcontract with MATIZART SAS and purchase orders with local organizations to facilitate the logistics of each of the workshops. Regional workshops were programmed during the quarter for Cauca (in Guapi), for Valle del Cauca (in Buenaventura), for Nariño (in Tumaco), as well as a national workshop with women. The goal is for 185 people to receive training in climate change and natural resource management. Workshops were also held in Nariño and in Bogotá with Afro-Colombian women delegates from Pacific community councils.

IMPROVING CAPACITY TO QUANTIFY ECOSYSTEMS SERVICES, SUCH AS GHG SEQUESTRATION, AND OTHER CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION ELEMENTS RESULTING FROM BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION (4.1.2)

Designing MRV Mechanisms for REDD Projects that Guide the Development of a National System. Beyond the development of the strategy and providing support to the national REDD-Readiness Proposal, during the quarter, BIOREDD+ identified 6 of the 9 tools, technologies, or methodologies that the program will develop, test, and/or adopt. BIOREDD+ worked with GeoEcoMap Inc. and their lead researcher, Dr. Sassan Saatchi, to begin the implementation of the subcontract that will develop, test, and or adopt at least 5 of the 9 tools, technologies, or methodologies set as a life of program goal. The development of this methodology that combines SAR and LIDAR remote sensing tools will enable REDD+ projects involving degradation to be registered under the Verified Carbon Standard. The activities designed and underway in developing carbon stock baseline scenarios for these REDD+ projects will also be used to build the capacity of IDEAM and other institutions to address climate change issues (for example, the forestry inventory plots, which will supplement the carbon baseline developed for the 4 nodes of REDD+ projects in the Pacific, will incorporate inputs from IDEAM, MADS and Humboldt so that information gathered can help validate remote sensing data, and establish biodiversity baselines). BIOREDD+ has also received a proposal from IDEAM for institutional strengthening support, so that IDEAM can complete carbon reference scenarios for the Amazonas, as part of the nested approach for REDD being pursued by the Government.

STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND PLANS (4.1.3)

Strengthening the National Authority for Fisheries and Aquaculture (AUNAP). BIOREDD+ contributed resources late last year to the creation of the new entity in charge of managing and controlling the use of fisheries resources in Colombia: the National Authority for Fisheries and Aquaculture (AUNAP), a special administrative unit under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD). During this quarter, BIOREDD+ supported the newly appointed director AUNAP - Julian Botero - and the Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the MARD, in two areas: (i) the development of a fisheries policy in Colombia (which falls under the MARD) that provides a better balance between commercial environmental and conservation concerns, and (ii) the design and implementation of a system for improved management of fisheries and aquaculture in Colombia. In the next quarter, BIOREDD+ will assess the extent of the support which can be provided to these activities.

Building the Capacity of Local Community Organizations for REDD Project Implementation. In order to generate buy-in for and build capacity in environmental management, biodiversity conservation, and REDD+ project implementation at the local level, BIOREDD+ conducted several outreach activities.

SECTION II

IMPROVING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

A. STRATEGY OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

This intermediate result of the BIOREDD+ program is designed to increase Colombia's capacity to provide alternative sources of income to beneficiary communities through the design and implementation of REDD+ projects and through building capacity to adapt to climate change. REDD+ projects are aimed at generating income flows from conservation and forest recovery efforts, through investments in productive activities and community oriented programs to address priorities such as health, food security, and sanitation.

During the quarter, BIOREDD+ has developed terms of reference and advanced in the contracting of activities related to the main 4 preparation pillars:

1. Socializing the program to identify communities interested in developing REDD+ activities;
2. Advancing social and economic assessments, to identify community investment needs, sources of income, and potential alternative productive activities;
3. Preparing the contracting of remote sensing imagery and field inventories, in order to develop a carbon baseline and MRV mechanisms; and
4. Developing the methodological framework to register the REDD+.

Table 4. Climate Change Key Indicators and Targets				
Indicator Number	Indicator	Adjusted LOP Goals	Year One Goals	Achievements Q4
DO4-007	Quantity of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, measured in metric million tons of CO2 equivalent (CO2e), reduced or sequestered as a result of USG assistance	18	0	As a critical step towards reducing GHG emissions via implementation of community-level REDD projects aimed at climate change mitigation, BIOREDD+ progressed in the development of local subcontracts with research institutes or universities to conduct an assessment of the social and productive investment priorities of the collective territories in the four nodes established by the program (Fundación Laurel for Tumaco; Universidad Autónoma de Occidente for Buenaventura; Universidad de Antioquia for Choco Sur and Urabá-Darién). Work in Tumaco is already underway and the contracting process of the other studies took place during the quarter. Also, EcoGeoMap was hired to develop carbon and biomass reference scenarios and maps for the 4 nodes. TORs and technical specifications were produced to contract a LIDAR image supplier, to contract an international VCS methodology specialist, and to develop forest plot protocols.
DO4-008	Number of REDD+ projects designed,	8	0	BIOREDD+ advanced in the design and validation of REDD+ projects during the quarter by contracting GEO-ECOMAP Inc. for the development of the carbon baselines, developing MRV systems, and biomass and

Table 4. Climate Change Key Indicators and Targets				
Indicator Number	Indicator	Adjusted LOP Goals	Year One Goals	Achievements Q4
	validated or financed.			carbon estimates required. GeoEcoMap started work in processing GeoSAR images to produce stratification maps. BIOREDD+ also finalized the documents for procuring images LiDAR and SAR images and hiring a subcontractor to develop VCS methodology.
DO4-009	Number of stakeholders with increased capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate variability and change as a result of USG assistance.	15	0	BIOREDD+ explored plans to assist 5 to 10 communities in adapting to flooding and increasing food and income resilience via the development of the Naidi palm in previously deforested areas of Bajo Baudo.
DO4-010	Amount of investment leveraged in U.S. dollars, from private and public partnership resources, for climate change as a result of USG assistance	\$13 MN	0	BIOREDD+ interacted with DPS, INCODER, and the Althelia Fund. In the case of Althelia, BIOREDD+ supported a visit by an international expert hired to perform a due diligence on the possible CONCOSTA REDD+ project. A visit to the project zone was conducted, and meetings were held with key staff and institutions. Funds should become available in early 2013.

Given the reallocation of budget obligations, BIOREDD+'s current adaptation strategy has been reoriented to two main types of activities in the Pacific:

- Conducting a vulnerability assessment for the Buenaventura region
- Promoting ecosystem and economic adaptation to climate events, through the promotion of flood resistant Naidi (i.e., acai or Murrapo) in Bajo Baudo.

Both proposed activities are consistent with the USAID's CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY expected results:

1. Improved access to science and assessments to inform decision making.
2. Improved resiliency to climatic events, including activities that may help mitigate impacts on livelihoods; and activities to enhance ecosystem adaptation. All activities support local and national development and adaption priorities.

B. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE QUARTER

INCREASING CAPACITY OF COLOMBIA TO MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH FOREST MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION (4.2.1)

Consolidating REDD Projects in ex-MIDAS Communities Engaged in Project Development. To promote the sustainable development of alternative productive activities in selected former MIDAS communities, BIOREDD+ is working with DPS to foster sustainable investments in productive areas in Cajambre and Bajo Mira & Frontera. As part of BIOREDD+'s PPP strategy, the funds invested by the program

leverage DPS resources for productive activities such as cacao in Cajambre and Bajo Mira & Frontera. These investments are linked to activities that promote biodiversity conservation in 29,000 hectares of natural forest.

During Q4, BIOREDD+ supported a due diligence visit to Concosta by an International Expert hired by the Althelia Fund. Althelia is a fund established to finance REDD+ projects worldwide. Since its inception, the fund has expressed interest in investing in some of the REDD+ initiatives promoted by USAID. Concosta and Cajambre have been initially identified as potential projects where Althelia could invest. Althelia hired Keegan Eisenstadt, from Clear Sky Solutions, to undertake a Due Diligence pre-feasibility assessment. To facilitate the assessment, BIOREDD+ provided all available information on Concosta and on the methodological approach followed by BIOREDD+. The information was reviewed during a visit to Colombia, which included interviews in Bogota and Cali, and a field trip to the Concosta area.



Due Diligence Assessment in Concosta. J.A. Lopez. 2012.

During the visit, the consultant requested and received information related to the REDD+ project being developed, deforestation drivers, legal titling, governing procedures of the Community Council, methodological approach, and BIOREDD+'s strategy. Also, BIOREDD+ staff accompanied the consultant on a helicopter flight to the forested area around Pizarro. The due diligence report will be used to determine the potential allocation of funds to the Concosta REDD+ project, which is planned for 2013.

Establishing, Consolidating and Registering Interest of Communities for the Implementation of REDD+ Projects in the Pacific Region. Through this activity, BIOREDD has conducted outreach to 55 communities in the Pacific Region interested in developing REDD+ activities. During Q4, BIOREDD+ organized meetings with communities of the Buenaventura area to evaluate their interest in developing REDD+ projects and biodiversity conservation activities. BIOREDD+ and community leaders signed new agreements to:

- Continue local outreach and raise awareness;
- Participate in the development of social and economic studies to identify drivers of deforestation, local investment priorities, sources of income, and alternative productive opportunities;
- Participate in carbon baseline studies and MRV mechanism measurements, which will help define their potential for REDD+ and complementary productive investments; and
- Provide required information to produce project documentation required to register at VCS and CCBS.

The program reiterated its interest if co-financing productive activities that could lead to reduced forest logging. Moreover, BIOREDD+ will finance some activities aimed at fostering the development of the Bahia Malaga National Park, and to assess vulnerability to climate change in the Buenaventura bay area.

Interested community councils in Buenaventura have been organized in 6 potential REDD+ projects as follows:

Table 5. Potential REDD+ Projects Organized in Buenaventura	
REDD+ Project	Community Council
1	Naya
2	Yurumanguí
3	Cajambre
4	Raposo Mayorquín Anchicayá
5	Bajo Calima Alto y Medio Dagua San Cipriano, Córdoba y Santa Helena
6	Bahía Málaga – La Plata Bazán La Bocana Puerto España Miramar

Conducting Socio-economic Assessments and Identification of Alternative Sources of Income in Participating REDD+ Communities. During the quarter, BIOREDD+ advanced with the contracting of the universities selected to undertake the social and economic assessments in the four geographical nodes as follows:

- TUMACO: Fundación Laurel, with local collaboration from Acapa.
- BUENAVENTURA: Universidad Autónoma de Occidente, with local collaboration from Cajambre.
- CHOCO SUR: Universidad de Antioquia, with local collaboration from the Instituto de Investigación Ambiental del Pacífico (IIAP).
- URABA-DARIEN: Universidad de Antioquia, with local collaboration from the Instituto de Investigación Ambiental del Pacífico (IIAP).

During Q4, Fundación Laurel started the study in the Tumaco area and produced a first report on the social and economic conditions of the Bajo Mira and Frontera and Acapa community councils, assessing the number of families, demographics, sources of income, and deforestation trends. The report also identified social and economic needs regarding education, health, infrastructure and community services. The report was validated with community leaders and helped raise awareness about potential REDD+ projects. Next reports will focus on investment priorities and potential productive activities which could become profitable alternatives to selective logging. The other studies are in the phase of producing the Work Plan (Universidad Autónoma de Occidente) or of contracting (Universidad de Antioquia).

Establishing Carbon Baselines and Additionality. The REDD+ projects BIOREDD+ is supporting are primarily aimed at allowing recovery of degraded forest lands. Therefore, the carbon baseline scenarios or MRV mechanisms established need to rely on tools that can detect degradation or recovery of degraded forests. Since the forests in the Pacific are difficult to reach due to restrictions in accessibility and safety, a combination of remote sensing technologies combined with field surveys and establishing permanent plots is the selected



Degradation in Southern Chocó. J. A. Lopez.

methodological approach. To reduce the statistical error to a maximum 10% level, at a 95% confidence interval, BIOREDD+ decided to combine SAR (i.e., ALOS PALSAR radar) images, with LIDAR (i.e., airborne laser) to get as much information as possible about topography, canopy height, and forest structure. LIDAR images will be taken over carefully selected transects, designed over stratified land cover types. Stratification will take place using GeoSAR images, available ALOS PALSAR, and by other sources of remote sensing imagery such as MODIS. Additionally, permanent one hectare, and temporary 0.25 hectare plots will help validate results, and account for biomass growth. BIOREDD+'s planning process has identified the need for local organizations to participate in this process, so that permanent plots can be sustained in the long term, at reasonable costs.

During this past quarter, BIOREDD+ contracted GeoEcoMap, led by Dr Sassan Saatchi, to help set up the planning process, stratify land cover, design the LIDAR transects, and plan the field plot setting. GeoEcoMap will use the results from the field plots and remote sensing imagery, and produce the carbon reference maps under the required uncertainty level. BIOREDD+ also finalized TORs for adding the acquisition and processing of ALOS PALSAR images to GeoEcoMap's work, considering that the MRV process in the future will be mainly based on ALOS PALSAR images and field plots. ALOS PALSAR images will help detect changes with data that will be validated with field surveys and inventory plots. This information will be used to detect carbon stock growth in the project areas, by comparing it to the baseline information being built by GeoEcoMap. It is this growth that will translate into carbon credits and related revenues to the communities. The technical specifications for hiring the LIDAR image supplier and the TOR for hiring the local consultants, who will design the field plot protocols and train local organizations to implement properly, were also developed during Q4.

Methodological Development. Considering that VCS methodologies are mainly aimed at deforestation, relying on optical remote sensing tools (i.e., LANDSAT), BIOREDD+ identified the need to develop or revise methodological elements to accommodate the REDD+ projects being prepared. As such, during the fourth quarter, BIOREDD+ finalized the TORs for hiring an internationally recognized and experienced consultancy group to help develop such methodological elements, as the basis for producing the respective REDD+ project documents.

INCREASING CAPACITY FOR ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN TARGET REGIONS. (4.2.2)

Vulnerability Assessment. In line with USAID's climate change and adaptation strategy, BIOREDD+ proposes to contract an assessment on the vulnerability to climate events of the Buenaventura Bay area, which will help devise adaptation measures. During next quarter, TOR will be produced and the services procured.

Ecosystem Adaptation Measures in Bajo Baudo. Resilience and readiness are the main two pillars for an effective adaptation strategy. Dimensions for leading a preparation process relate to (i) food, (ii) infrastructure, (iii) health, and (iv) water. In the case of Bajo Baudo, flooding hits food production, transport, infrastructure and water quality. BIOREDD+ will help develop ecosystem and economic resiliency, through the development of productive activities based on Naidi. Naidi is a renowned colonizer following deforestation, which helps prevent erosive processes, grows fast, and may become an important source of food and income. A project profile will be developed for the Bajo Baudo area, considering the logistic and energy restrictions in the area and profit potential.

Enhancing Coordination and Planning Capacity of the Regional Climate Change Nodes for the Caribbean and Pacific Coasts (CRCCN and PRCCN). Considering the recent restrictions of BIOREDD+ in terms of geographical scope and resources for adaptation, it has been decided that this activity will now not be financed.

INCREASING ACCESS TO CLEAN ENERGY RESOURCES (4.2.3).

Strengthening Fisheries Value Chains in the Coastal areas of the Gulf of Tribugá (Chocó), Coastal Area of Valle del Cauca, and the Southern Coastal Area of Nariño. In order to improve livelihoods, and enhance sustainable fisheries management, installing clean energy systems in selected coastal communities is an important development option. During the previous quarter, BIOREDD+ coordinated with the USAID Colombia Clean Energy Program (CCEP) to evaluate the potential of alternative energy systems to install renewable energy plants (i.e. micro-hydro, pellet gasification) plants in selected communities in the Chocó. To ensure that both projects are maximizing impact through coordination of resources, BIOREDD+, grantee Marviva, and CCEP met to explore alternatives for generating cold storage and/ or ice production in coastal communities where BIOREDD+ is supporting sustainable fishing initiatives along the coasts of northern Chocó, Valle del Cauca and southern Nariño. In all three locations, one of the major bottlenecks for commercialization of fish is the high cost of ice production and refrigeration, and plants commonly use diesel power generation. As a result of the meetings, the programs agreed to move forward with contracting a consultant to identify the best strategy for the generation cold storage and ice production. With the support of Marviva, BIOREDD+ has developed a draft TOR for the consultancy, which will be evaluated and complemented by CCEP. BIOREDD+ expects to recruit a consultant for five (5) months to conduct this assignment at the start of 2013.

SECTION III

IMPROVING BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

A. STRATEGY OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

This intermediate result of the BIOREDD+ program is designed to increase Colombia's capacity to conserve biodiversity in protected areas and buffer zones by establishing and implementing economic incentives for conservation and improving natural resource management by local populations. To achieve this result, BIOREDD+ is working at the community level to enhance commercialization of biodiversity-dependent products and improving local participation in PES and REDD+ activities, using priorities as defined by Natural Parks and the CARs.

The main challenge for improving biodiversity conservation is to promote sustainable management while effectively establishing links with conservation financing instruments such as PES, REDD, and other ecologically compatible income-generating activities. In order to address this challenge, BIOREDD+ is working with communities and stakeholders in and around protected areas and areas.

Table 6. Biodiversity Key Indicators and Targets

Indicator Number	Indicator	Adjusted LOP Goals	Year One Goals	Achieved Q4
DO4-012	Number of communities and other stakeholders adopting sustainable practices to improve biodiversity conservation.	17	0	BIOREDD+ awarded grants to support communities in mangrove management in Bajo Mira & Frontera and Cajambre. We are also supporting communities in and around Utría with eco-tourism initiatives that conserve biodiversity through the Mano Cambiada grant and those in and around the Gulfs of Cupica and Tribuga with fisheries management and commercialization through the grant to Fundación Marviva. BIOREDD+ also continued to coordinate with more than 8 communities in and around the Uramba - Bahia Malaga National Park to improve biodiversity conservation.
DO4-013 & DO4-014	Number of management plans presented for approval, approved or in implementation for protected areas in eco-systems of biological significance.	5	1	The majority of the activities undertaken by BIOREDD+ in coordination with National Parks and other regional and local stakeholders to provide support for the development management plans focused on the Caribbean were halted in early August. Nevertheless, along the Pacific, BIOREDD+ continued to provide outreach and support for the Management Plan for Uramba and Bahia Malaga and its buffer zone areas, as well as for local level management plans for non-timber forest products in the middle basin of the Atrato River.
DO4-015	Amount of investment leveraged from public and	\$2.2M	\$200K	Through the MOU signed between USAID and the Department for Social Prosperity (DPS),

	private partnership sources for management of natural resources in protected areas and buffer zones, indigenous reserves (<i>resguardos</i>) and Afro-Colombian territories (<i>consejos comunitarios</i>).			BIOREDD+ has signed grant agreements that leveraged roughly US\$745,000.
DO4-016	Amount of economic benefits (US dollars) from payments from ecosystem services and/or ecotourism through public and private partnerships	\$3.7M	0	Activities were undertaken during the quarter to support Mano Cambiada at Travelmart to promote eco-tourism.
DO4-017	Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity	7,000	200	Through outreach activities with more than forty different community organizations or collective territories, BIOREDD+ has provided training to more than 300 people.

To achieve the results under this component, BIOREDD+ is working at the national, regional, and local levels. The majority of activities are at the community level with Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities, although work with regional authorities, like the CARs is also key. BIOREDD+ also works with the National Parks authority and other national-level entities, both governmental and non-governmental.

IMPROVING SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN PROTECTED AREAS AND BUFFER ZONES, INDIGENOUS RESERVES AND AFRO-COLOMBIAN TERRITORIES. (4.3.1)

In order to increase environmental awareness and subsequent biodiversity conservation inside and around protected areas, BIOREDD+ is working with Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities and other stakeholders (including local, regional, and national authorities) to develop and implement management plans and associated action plans that will provide incentives and benefits for conservation. During the quarter, significant revisions to BIOREDD+'s strategic approach have encouraged increased synergy with REDD+ and governance activities and resulted in a more concentrated approach to implementation of activities along the Pacific coast.

Supporting the Implementation of Sustainable Management Activities in and around the Uramba - Bahia Malaga National Park. Building on the collaboration of the previous quarter with National Parks, BIOREDD+ focused on ways to support the planning processes and management activities around the 47,000 hectare park, in conjunction with the collective territories in the park and its buffer zone. To that end, BIOREDD+ resumed talks with four community councils in Bahia Malaga, which occupy key territory in buffer zones of the park (Chucheros, Ladrilleros, Juanchaco and La Barra). These had previously decided not to participate in BIOREDD+'s socio-economic assessment for REDD projects, which stalled programmatic development for some time. Given the tenor of the recent discussions, BIOREDD+ expects that activities in ecotourism and sustainable artisanal fisheries will now be developed with some of this group linked to activities being developed with in the area (Puerto España Miramar, La Plata – Bahía Málaga). It is expected that the combination of these efforts in the area will strengthen local environmental governance and develop sustainable productive projects that encourage biodiversity conservation.

Promoting Sustainable Use of Mangrove and Fisheries Resources in Nariño (Consejo Comunitario Bajo Mira and Frontera) and in Valle del Cauca (Consejo Comunitario Cajambre)

During the quarter, two grants that fall under the USAID/BIOREDD+ and Department for Social Prosperity (DPS) framework agreement for complimentary initiatives in the implementation of productive activities in mangrove ecosystems and coastal marine areas were awarded by BIOREDD+.

In July, BIOREDD+ awarded a 12 month grant to Cajambre, located in the southern coast of Nariño. The grant seeks to conserve biodiversity in mangrove ecosystems and coastal areas by reducing pressure on natural resources provided by these ecosystems and by strengthening responsible and sustainable value chains. During the quarter, Cajambre presented its detailed work plan which presents a timeline for establishing 60 hectares of cacao with plantain and other tree species to reduce the pressure on forests, for undertaking conservation activities on 7,000 hectares of mangrove (particularly fisheries), for strengthening the PINPESCA association and for improving the organizational capacity of the consejo in terms of accounting, personnel, governability, and resource management. This grant also seeks to ensure increased income for more than 300 family households.

In August, BIOREDD+ awarded a 12 month grant to Bajo Mira and Frontera, located in the southern coast of Nariño. The grant seeks to support natural forest conservation and strengthen the agricultural and fisheries production activities that link families to lower-impact manufacturing processes in ecosystems present in the territory. In September, the consejo began contracting staff for the activity and developed a draft work plan, which is currently being adjusted based on the recommendations of the BIOREDD+ team in order to ensure increased income of 500 family households. The consejo also worked on the conservation agreement for 22,000 hectares of mangrove and guandal forests to be signed by DPS, BIOREDD+, and the consejo.

Also, in August, BIOREDD+ released a request for proposals (RFP) to conduct the verification and monitoring of the conservation areas of mangrove and guandal spanning 37,000 hectares in Bajo Mira y Frontera, Acapa, and Cajambre, to ensure compliance with conservation agreements and productive development for activities funded by BIOREDD+ and DPS. The verification of compliance with forest conservation commitments and strategic ecosystems is a key activity to ensure that the consejos are preserving forest cover and not exploiting resources.

Activities in the Caribbean. Activities for this sub-intermediate result were halted in August. BIOREDD+ effectively communicated with counterpart organizations the transition of the program out of the Caribbean and the closure of the call for applications for funds to conserve dry forests in the Caribbean without award. In agreement with USAID, staff was retained until they could be transitioned to *Patrimonio Natural* contracts.

IMPROVING ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (4.3.2)



Strengthening Community-based Ecotourism in the Utría National Park and its Area of Influence.

During this quarter, BIOREDD+ continued to provide support for an 18-month grant to Mano Cambiada as part of a comprehensive strategy to improve ecotourism in the Utría National Park. The grant seeks to strengthen the community-based tourism operator's eco-tourism services and attract more tourists to the area. Mano Cambiada is in the unique position of being the only official provider of community services in Utría National Park until 2018. The primary goal of the grant is to increase the economic benefits of 30 families by COL \$150,000,000 pesos

through sustainable management and conservation of natural resources.

In July, Mano Cambiada presented its second milestone under the grant agreement. This milestone included an initial evaluation of its organizational capacity, an organizational chart and evidence of contracted personnel, procurement quotes for important resources like kayaks and office equipment to improve operations, baseline data of the 100 potential beneficiaries, and an impact matrix detailing results and indicators for financed activities. Also, to promote environmental management in the Chocó, Mano Cambiada with support from BIOREDD+ and National Parks, held the Festival de la Migración during to quarter to promote the management of the Utria National Park and environmental awareness while whales are migrating.

In September 2012, BIOREDD+ provided technical assistance to Mano Cambiada to improve their ecotourism services through eco-tourism expert, Jascivan Carvalho, who traveled to Colombia to attend the Latin American Travel Mart in Cartagena, where he provided promotional material and information about Nuquí as an ecotourism destination, with special emphasis on Mano Cambiada. After the event in Cartagena he led a group of international tour operators on a visit to Nuquí. Some of the key recommendations arising from the visit included:

1. Clarifying the financial situation or business plan for the lodge.
2. Reviewing the administrative structure and current costs, given the administrative burden.
3. Removing Bogotá and Pretoria operations and concentrating on the operational capacity in Utria and Nuquí.
4. Finding an anchor company in Medellín to promote the corporation along with other resources in the area.
5. Contacting local operators based on the list of operators participating in the Travel Mart.
6. Developing a quality system and operational processes for contingency plans, emergency evacuations (i.e. transportation issues, guidance, trails, passenger information, etc.).
7. Protecting and strengthening the group's artistic resources.
8. Strengthening the ecotourism potential of nearby communities to achieve the broadest product development in the area.

Based on these activities, as well as discussions in the internal strategic programming sessions, BIOREDD+ will modify the grant with Mano Cambiada to address more concrete ways to build tourism. Potentially, BIOREDD+ will potentially contract an additional evaluation of community based eco-tourism from a skilled international company.

BIOREDD+ is also supporting other community tourism organizations in the rural areas of Nuquí (districts of Coquí, Joví and Termale) which operate in the area of influence of the Utría National Park. In August, BIOREDD+ contracted a legal expert to support local ecotourism organizations from Joví, Termale, and Coquí in formalizing their operations. Specifically, the expert was tasked with providing support to the local ecotourism group of Pinchindé (from Joví) to develop participatory statutes and subsequently obtain its legal registration, as well as to update the statutes of the two other local ecotourism organizations Ecoguías (from Coquí) and Cocoter (from Termale). Ultimately, this activity sought to strengthen the organizations in order to formalize partnerships between themselves and regional operators, as well as to facilitate the possibility that these organizations could become eligible for consideration for additional assistance to improve the quality of their services and to increase the economic benefits associated with community eco-tourism (i.e. hiking, estuary tours, etc).

Grant Applications from Consejos Comunitarios de Buenaventura. The 10 consejo comunitarios of Naya, Yurumanguí, Cajambre, Mayorquín, Raposo, Bajo Anchicayá, Bajo Calima, La Plata-Bahía Málaga, Bazán-Bocana and Puerto España Miramar, who signed road map agreements with BIOREDD+ in previous quarters, received technical assistance from BIOREDD+ in formulating their grant applications to improve the coastal-marine biodiversity conservation, increase economic benefits from sustainable productive activities associated with biodiversity conservation and strengthen local environmental governance. During the quarter, a grant was

awarded to the consejo comunitario of Cajambre. The remaining 9 applications were reviewed by an internal technical committee which requested adjustments to the proposed applications before award consideration. During August and September, technical team members worked on the proposed adjustments, but given the internal review sessions, significant realignment was deemed necessary to ensure that activities proposed contributed to the conservation of ecosystems of biological significance and potential for REDD+ project, thereby maximizing program impact. BIOREDD+ has held several meetings with representatives from the consejo comunitarios of the region to broker new agreements. In the next quarter, the revised activities are expected to be presented for award.



Learning to Use the “Pianguimetro”. Marviva. 2012.

Revenue Increases from the Sustainable Use of Non Timber Forest Products (NFTPs). To support the consolidation of two NFTP value chains, in September, BIOREDD+ awarded a grant to Fundación Espavé

. The grant aims to consolidate and expand a new sector of the economy in the Mid Atrato river area based on the sustainable use of regional biodiversity - primarily naidi palms - to promote forest recovery, generate income and strengthen the economy. The grant will increase the productive base of Acai in natural forests in Afro-Colombian communities. This activity is planned for one year to link an estimated 40 local communities, mostly Afro-Colombian, to the value chain, and include roughly 500 families involved in sustainable production processes from Acai. This proposed activity also includes private sector leveraged funds and investment from the company, *Productos Del Bosque*.

Enhancing livelihoods from Improved Fisheries Governance, Management, and Commercialization in the Coastal Marine Territory of Northern Chocó. During this quarter, BIOREDD+ advanced in the implementation of a grant agreement with Fundación Marviva to promote the management and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources in 205,000 hectares of northern Chocó. As a result of the outreach to communities conducted during the previous quarter, Marviva successfully reestablished working agreements with the consejo comunitarios of Riscales and Delfines to strengthen conservation strategies and increase the economic benefits of the local communities. Marviva also conducted a socio-economic assessment of the Gulf of Cupica, which analyzed the kinds of activities and conflicts posed to the environment by the population. This assessment will be used to raise awareness and encourage behavioral change in terms of attitudes and regulations dealing with marine resources.

To promote the first continuous and comprehensive process of participatory fisheries monitoring in the Chocó, Marviva with BIOREDD+ support held the First Festival of Piangua in the Gulf of Tribuga on July 28th, the International Mangrove Ecosystem Protection Day. The festival was designed and implemented by the communities of Jurubirá, Tribugá, Panguí and Nuquí with the continued support from MarViva and BIOREDD+ resources to serve as a tool for education and awareness of how to manage and conserve mangrove. One of the ways used to promote awareness was through the "Sustainable Pianguera" contest in which 20 women cockle harvesters from the area were challenged to collect as many cockles, above the permitted size (5cm) in a specific period of time.

To support fisheries monitoring and organization in six locations in the Gulf of Cupica, Marviva hired and trained seven local community staff to monitor catches. To gauge awareness and consumer interest in environmentally sustainable fisheries products, Marviva developed an online survey. The results of this survey

will be used to support the strengthening of value chains for responsible fisheries. Finally, the first permanent plots for monitoring mangroves in the Gulf of Tribugá were installed. These plots have been established as reference points for continual measurement and monitoring by both the communities and Marviva to provide a record of growth in volume and of changes in other variables over time.

Marviva encountered many challenges in its implementation of the grant, primarily with regard to the grant's objective to develop more effective mechanisms of governance and capacity building in local authorities. There is clearly a need for more coordination between the various public and private institutions involved in conservation currently working in northern Chocó. Activities to date have required a series of consultations and meetings to this end. Furthermore, negotiations with the juntas of the community councils have proved significantly challenging. In the following quarter, Marviva will present the second milestone of their grant agreement, reporting on achievements in each of the five key activities of the grant along the northern coast of the Chocó:

1. Support the development and implementation of proposals for fisheries management.
2. Support the implementation and formulation of mangrove management plans.
3. Develop more effective mechanisms of governance and capacity building in local authorities.
4. Strengthen value chains and design and implement criteria for responsible fisheries production/consumption.
5. Develop and implement a communications strategy.

SECTION IV

ESTABLISHING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPPs)

A. STRATEGY OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

This intermediate result of the BIOREDD+ program is designed to form alliances with the private sector and public institutions in order to maximize the impact and sustainability of the activities, particularly after BIOREDD+ ends. Under the climate change component BIOREDD+ is seeking to leverage resources from private sector investors in REDD+ projects. Under the biodiversity component, BIOREDD+ is working with the public sector institutions like DPS as well as some private sector investors. To date, apart from the DPS financing, public-private leverage has been disappointing.

The key indicators and targets set are shown below.

Table 7. PPP Key Indicators and Targets				
Reference	Indicator	Adjusted LOP Goals	Year One Goals	Achievements Q4
DO4-010	Amount of investment leveraged in U.S. dollars, from private and public partnership resources, for climate change as a result of USG assistance.	\$13 MN	\$0 MN	BIOREDD+ continues to identify the potential for in funding from various private/public sources, like the Colombian businesses <i>Productos Del Bosque Naidi</i> to support sustainable productive projects.
DO4-015	Amount of investment leveraged from public and private partnership sources for management of natural resources in protected areas and buffer zones, indigenous reserves (<i>resguardos</i>) and Afro-Colombian territories (<i>consejos comunitarios</i>).	\$2.2 MN	\$200 K	During the previous quarter, DPS pledged support for joint initiatives under the USAID-DPS MOU. To this end, DPS disbursed US\$280,000 during this quarter, to complement a grant to the communities of Bajo Mira & Frontera.

B. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE QUARTER

LEVERAGING PARTNERSHIPS AND MAXIMIZING RESOURCES THROUGH PPPs (4.4.1)

Coordinating for Leveraged funds from a Partnership between the Colombian Department for Social Prosperity (DPS) and USAID. During the previous quarter, BIOREDD+ coordinated with the Department for Social Prosperity (DPS) to leverage more than \$4.5 billion pesos for project activities under a memorandum of understanding between DPS and USAID signed on May 25, 2012. The partnership strengthens the economic opportunities in Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities, supports the development and implementation of sustainable management and conservation of natural forests, and supports climate change adaptation and mitigation projects. During the quarter almost US\$800,000 was leveraged from DPS for the regions identified in the MOU, including Bajo Mira & Frontera, Cajambre, and Acapa.



Harvesting Cacao in Bajo Mira & Frontera.
J.D. Correa. 2012

To take advantage of the opportunity for leveraging funds, during the quarter BIOREDD+ signed and began implementation of two grants with the communities of Cajambre and Bajo Mira that promote the conservation of biodiversity on 25,000 hectares of mangrove ecosystems by reducing the pressure on natural resources through productive activities in cacao. For these activities, alone, BIOREDD+ expects to have secured leveraged funds from DPS totaling approximately US\$740,000 USD. DPS has already disbursed US\$280,000 of these funds for Bajo Mira & Frontera. During the quarter, the construction of warehouses for cacao began and 40,000 units of planting materials for cacao were delivered to the consejo.

Following up on potential partners previously identified.

To support the marketing process and first export of cacao from the port area of Tumaco or Buenaventura, BIOREDD+ coordinated with BUNGE and TRANSMAR to initiate the purchase process and export of cacao from Bajo Mira. TRANSMAR has financed the presence of a person in the region to organize logistics and provide post-harvest support to the agricultural producers. BUNGE has provided financing during the quarter to support the development of the Bajo Mira & Frontera PDD. BIOREDD+ coordination in this activity seeks to promote the conservation of mangrove forests in Bajo Mira by coordinating with investors in productive activities that reduce pressure on the forests and increase economic benefits from sustainable productive activities.

Potential leveraged funds in early 2013. BIOREDD+ expects that in the following quarter the planning for collaboration on the campaign with *El Exito* will resume. Furthermore, BIOREDD+ will also continue to work with the Althelia Fund and identify additional potential investors from the private sector for the REDD+ projects being designed. Finally, in addition to the outreach that the program has done with the WOK restaurant chain for responsible fisheries, BIOREDD+ also started outreach to popular Colombian chefs to promote entrees with responsible products like piangua, supported by the program's grantees. Initial contacts were established with Leo Kats and his restaurant chains as well as with Jorge Rausch and others, with assistance from *El Tiempo*.

SECTION V

IMPLEMENTING MONITORING & EVALUATION AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Implementing Effective Monitoring & Evaluation

During the quarter, M&E staff focused on collecting data and monitoring performance to report in MONITOR for monitoring and evaluation and environmental compliance. Tables 8 and 9 below provide an overview of progress to date for performance indicators and internal program indicators. Indicators in the tables below are tracked against set indicator targets and progress to date.

Table 8. BIOREDD+ Performance Indicators					
No.	Indicator	TARGETS		Achievements	
		Total LOP	YI	Through Q3	Through YI
1	Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance.	700,000	30,000	0	0
2	Number of institutions /organizations public and private with improved capacity for effective environmental resource management.	30	10	2	3
3	Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance.	15,200	0	0	0
4	Number of institutions with improved capacity to address climate change issues as a result of UGS assistance.	20	5	0	0
5	Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) and/or biodiversity conservation officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance.	24	6	15	26
6	Number of mitigation and/or adaptation tools, technologies and methodologies developed, tested and/or adopted.	9	0	0	0
7	Quantity of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, measured in metric million tons of CO2 equivalent (CO2e), reduced or sequestered as a result of USG assistance	18	0	0	0
8	Number of REDD+ projects designed, validated and marketed.	8	0	0	0

9	Number of stakeholders with increased capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate variability and change as a result of USG assistance.	15	0	0	0
10	Amount of investment leveraged in U.S. dollars, from private and public partnership resources, for climate change as a result of USG assistance.	13M	0	0	0
12	Number of communities and other stakeholders adopting sustainable practices to improve biodiversity conservation.	17	0	0	0
13 and 14	Number of management plans presented for approval, approved or in implementation for protected areas in eco-systems of biological significance.	5	1	0	0
15	Amount of investment leveraged from public and private partnership sources for management of natural resources in protected areas and buffer zones, indigenous reserves (resguardos) and Afro-Colombian territories (territorios colectivos).	2,2M	200K	33,092	33,092
16	Amount of economic benefits (US dollars) from payments from ecosystem services and/or ecotourism through public and private partnerships	3,7M	0	0	0
17	Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation.	7,000	200	296	339

Table 9. BIOREDD+ Internal Indicators					
Key Process	Internal Indicator	Targets		Achievements	
		Total LOP	YI	Through Q3	Through YI
Economic benefits	Number of payment for ecosystem services (PES) programs designed	4	0	0	0
Sustainable livelihoods improved	Number of households benefited by alternative livelihood activities in BIO-REDD+ assisted areas	3,800	100	50	50
Participative /consultation process	Number of ethnic authorities formally agreeing to collaborate with BIO-REDD+	31	26	44	51
	Number of workshops for consultation supported	22	10	0	0
	Number of participatory planning processes implemented	40	5	1	1
	Number of ethno-development plans that incorporate natural resources management, biodiversity conservation or climate change adaptation	10	0	0	0
Counterparts/ Leverage funds	Amount (in dollars) of cost share contributions from grants **	25% of total amount awarded for donations		31%	42%
Share Knowledge	Number of communication products prepared	250	50	21	45
Capacity - Building	Number of institutions/organizations with a tailored capacity-building program designed	20	1	1	1

** Obligated (average)

Despite a fairly mediocre performance against numeric indicator targets in Q4 (with the notable exception of the National Policy work), BIOREDD+ has assessed qualitative progress for each project component: Environmental Governance, Climate Change (Mitigation and Adaptation) and Biodiversity Conservation. Monitoring and Evaluation highlights of progress towards targets are highlighted in the tables below.

Table 10. Environmental Governance Highlights			
Level of Intervention	Indicators	Outcomes / Outputs	Description
National Level	One (1) public institution with improved capacity for effective environmental resource management	MADS prepared and presented formally documents about laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements or regulations addressing climate change and/or biodiversity conservation.	7 of the documents addressing environmental governance prepared through third quarter were officially proposed during the last quarter: Law 99 of 1993, Law 1448 of 2011 (Law of victims), regulative decree of Law 1450 of 2011 (National Development Plan – PND), Law of lands and rural development, Law 685 of 2001 (Mining Code), Policy of biodiversity, Forest Policy and Decree of forest management. 1 resolution on ecotourism in national parks proposed.
			1 document prepared: Law on the use of mercury in mining.
			2 Decrees adopted: Decree 1970 of 2012 on small mining and Decree 1640 on watershed management.
			5 Resolutions adopted by MESD: 629, 1517, 1518, 1526 y 1527
			1 decree formally presented previously was adopted: Decree 1310 of 2011. Inclusion of texts on protected areas, strategic ecosystems and environmental management measures.
	One (1) public institution improving its capacity for effective environmental resource management	Two (2) decrees creating the AUNAP were implemented	The 2 decrees adopted for the creation of AUNAP were implemented. During the last quarter the director of AUNAP was named.
Local Level	Six (6) private organizations in process to improve capacity for effective environmental resource management	Two (2) Community councils began improving capacity for effective environmental resource management	Through the direct execution of Grants the <i>Community Councils of Bajo Mira y Frontera and Cajambre</i> continue improving capacity to manage their collective territories.
		Four (4) Community Councils received support to improve capacity for effective environmental resource management	The <i>community councils of Riscales, Delfines, Juradó and Cupica</i> began improving their capacity for the management of fisheries and mangroves with MarViva's support.
		Two small agro industrial enterprises will improve capacity for effective <i>murrapo palm</i> management	Through a Grant to the Espavé Foundation, two small enterprises that work in gathering and selling <i>murrapo</i> pulp are receiving support to improve their capacity.

Table II. Climate Change (Mitigation and Adaptation) Highlights			
Indicator DO4	Indicator IR	Outcomes / Outputs	Description
One (1) public institution with improved capacity for effective environmental resource management	One (1) institution with technical support for improved capacity to address climate change issues as a result of UGS assistance (in process)	MESD is structuring with participation of the stakeholders, the National Strategy of REDD+ (ENREDD+).	BIOREDD+ has supported the revision of the sixth version of ENREDD+ by the Amazon indigenous leaders and their outreach and training process through the two workshops with Afro-Colombian authorities and women leaders.
Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management	Number of Projects REDD+ designed (PDD completed)	Socio-economic studies for four REDD+ Nodes	The socio-economic assessment in the Tumaco node began. The Corporación Ambiental de la Universidad de Antioquia was selected as a subcontractor for the nodes of Urabá-Darién and Chocó Sur.
		Four mitigation and/or adaptation tools, technologies or methodologies will be developed, tested and/or adopted.	During the last quarter under a subcontract with GeoEcoMap work began on the construction the technical information for the REDD+ projects in the four nodes to develop, test and adopt one methodology to incorporate LIDAR images to estimate biomass. GeoSAR images will be used to stratify land cover types using a DEM of high precision (i.e., 3 meters); the images from ALOS-PALSAR will be processed for the totality of REDD+ project areas to build the MRV mechanism to monitor future changes in degradation or reforestation. SAR and LIDAR images will be combined with data from field plots to produce carbon reference scenarios.
Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance.	Number of Projects REDD+ financed	Support for the establishment of relationships between the Consejo Comunitario of Concosta and the Althelia Fund	In September, a field visit to Concosta to begin the feasibility assessment for REDD projects was conducted.

Table 12. Biodiversity Conservation Highlights			
Indicator DO4	Indicator IR	Outcomes / Outputs	Description
Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management	Number of communities and other stakeholders adopting sustainable practices to improve biodiversity conservation.	The community councils of <i>Cajambre</i> and <i>Bajo Mira y Frontera</i> signed grants with BIOREDD+ and DPS to improve their capacity to manage their collective territories.	Under grants with BIOREDD+ and DPS, the community councils of <i>Cajambre</i> and <i>Bajo Mira y Frontera</i> signed conservation agreements to protect in total 30,000 hectares of mangroves and <i>guandal</i> forest. These agreements will be verified by external supervisors.
			With these grants the community councils will promote sustainable agriculture in 1,280 hectares.
			Under these grants the fishermen and <i>piangüeras</i> will modify some of their present practices to improve the sustainable management of natural resources in the coastal and marine ecosystems.
Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance.	Amount of economic benefits (US dollars) from payments from ecotourism	<i>Espavé</i> Foundation signed a grant with BIOREDD+ to improve non-timber use of the forest in the middle Atrato river zone.	With this grant, we will incorporate 500 new hectares to the present <i>murrayo</i> management plan.
		DPS signed grants with the community council of <i>Cajambre</i> and <i>Bajo Mira y Frontera</i> to improve the conservation of mangroves and <i>guandal</i> forest in their collective territories	DPS contributes US\$736,137 with the principal objective of improving the conservation of forest areas in the <i>Cajambre</i> and <i>Bajo Mira y Frontera</i> territories. This will pay for conservation and provide economic benefits to 2,000 people.
		Strengthening the eco-tourism destination of Nuquí- PNN Utría -- Bahía Solano	During September the Utría National Park was presented at the Latin American Travel Mart held in the city of Cartagena and international tour operators traveled to review the community ecotourism in Utría and Mano Cambiada. This is expected to contribute to improving the economic benefits of 220 people.

Below, BIOREDD+ has included an additional table which highlights progress towards internal indicators.

Table 13. BIOREDD+ Internal Indicator Highlights		
Key Process	Outcomes	Description
Participative /consultation process	7 ethnic authorities of community councils from Chocó, formally agreed to collaborate with BIOREDD+	BIOREDD+ outreach was targeted towards the establishment of agreements with each of the ethnic collective territories.
Capacity - Building	43 Afro Colombian women trained in national strategy of REDD+	Afro Colombian National Women's Workshop for the National Strategy of REDD+.

During the quarter, M&E staff continued to monitor BIOREDD+ progress. Training for new implementers of activities under the Environmental Activities Fund-EAF was given and progress was recorded in the databases: DevResults, Monitor and TraiNetWeb.

In conjunction with the M&E Program, BIOREDD+ conducted a data quality assessment for the indicator *DO4-005 Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) and/or biodiversity conservation officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance. (F 4.8.2-28)*. M&E staff also conducted a field visit to collect data for the baseline of the organizational strengthening index and to monitor compliance with the Environmental Management Plan - PMA activity- GRANT-BR-003 FOG executed by MarViva.

IMPLEMENTING KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC OUTREACH FOR USAID ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES.

During the quarter, BIOREDD+ assessed progress on the implementation of the Communications strategy and prioritized activities to increase the impact of BIOREDD+, promote USAID and complete contractual requirements for communications, and to document and share program activities effectively. During this quarter, BIOREDD+ also began adapting the Communications strategy to reflect strategic changes in the program.

BIOREDD+ presented two success stories for USAID consideration and two more were drafted. It distributed electronic monthly bulletins, entitled *Sostenibilidad*, that are fully interactive with links to galleries, videos, articles and other media online; it is also linked to the program's website. By the end of the quarter, BIOREDD+ also completed the development phase of the beta version of the website, which is under review by USAID. The website has its own Control Management System (CMS) and features a Search Engine Optimization (SEO) tool. During the quarter, two videos in HD format were produced and published on YouTube and distributed through the monthly bulletins: [Dr. Sassan Saatchi in Colombia](#) and [Las Piangueras de Punta Bonita](#). BIOREDD+ produced promotional material to contribute to the accomplishment of program goals; for example, supporting the FUNDACIÓN MARVIVA in the celebration of the First Piangua Festival held on July 28th. Fully branded communication materials were produced and distributed in Nuquí and its surroundings to promote the event.

Tropic Journeys in Nature, with the support of BIOREDD+, participated in the 36th Latin American Travel Mart held in Cartagena from September 12th to the 14th to promote Nuquí and the PNN Utría destinations with photographs, graphic and written materials provided by BIOREDD+. This international tourist operator visited PNN Utría with representatives from the operators Global Base Camps, Preston Reid and Detour Destinations, and the editor of Footprint South American Hand-Book with the support of BIOREDD+'s communications team.

SECTION VI

IMPLEMENTING BIOREDD+ OPERATIONS

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES FUND MANAGEMENT

During the quarter, the contracts and grants staff dedicated to implementing the EAF focused on five main activities:

- Developing and opening solicitations for awarding subcontracts and grants,
- Reviewing applications and proposals from organizations to determine their responsibility to manage funds and to evaluate the eligibility of proposed activities and costs,
- Developing and signing grants and subcontracts according to the regulations,
- Preparing approval requests to submit to USAID for grants that were approved by the TEC
- Implementing activities to support travel and workshops for potential grantees and stakeholders

During the quarter, the EAF group opened 2 solicitations for subcontracts, prepared and signed 3 grants, and hired 17 consultants.

Reference	Solicitation	Proposals or Applications Received	Proposals or Applications Selected as Potential Recipients
BR-APS-2012-002	General Annual Program Statement	3	3
BR-RFP-2012-007	Request for Proposals for socio-economic assessment and preliminary evaluation of alternative productive projects and social investment opportunities for the collective territories of Urabá- Darién.	1	1
BR-RFP-2012-008	Request for Proposals for socio-economic assessment and preliminary evaluation of alternative productive projects and social investment opportunities for the collective territories of Southern Chocó.	2	1
BR-RFP-2012-009	Verificación y monitoreo de áreas de conservación de bosques de Guandal y manglar en territorios colectivos del Verification and monitoring of conservation areas and mangrove and guandal forests in collective territories consejo comunitario of Bajo Mira & Frontera in Tumaco, consejo comunitario of ACAPA and consejo comunitario of rio Cajambre.	1	1
BR-RFP-2012-010	Design and implementation of a strategy of negotiation and relationship management with ethnic communities for the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - MESD which includes accompaniment in the prior consultation process for the modification of Law 99 of 1993 relating to the CARs.	2	1

The table and figures on the following page indicate the types of mechanisms used for activities during the quarter and the amount of funding committed through each mechanism.

Table 16. Activities by Mechanism type

Mechanism	Quantity
PO	4
PT	8
FOG	3
SUBK	4
STTA	17
TOTAL	36